

FARM TOPICS

SOIL ELEMENTS VITAL FACTOR

For Fertile Farm Lands and Future Yield.

By DR. W. A. ALBRECHT
(Department of Soils, University of Missouri)

If we Americans paid as much attention to our soils as we do to our cars or radios, the matter of soil fertility would not be the mystic business we often think it is.

It is high time we learned a little about soil chemistry—at least enough so that chemical terms such as calcium, nitrogen, phosphorus and potash are no more difficult to comprehend than other terms like carburetor, differential, superheterodyne, static, radio beam.

There is nothing really mysterious about the elements which combine to promote soil fertility.

Calcium, or lime, that serves as part of the growing plant's protein-making activity and is needed so badly by most soils before legumes can be grown, is so common it ought to be a household word on every American farm.

Nitrogen, the distinguishing element in protein for which all forms of life struggle, is getting scarcer in our soils and should be more fully appreciated for its elusiveness. Phosphorus, which enters into combination with nitrogen to make protein, the secret stuff of life, growth and reproduction, must likewise be added to other items about which we must familiarize ourselves further.

Phosphorus is likewise becoming more deficient in our soils, in spite of the fact that this country has more and larger deposits of phosphatic material than any other in the world. We must learn more, too, about potash which is the balance wheel that promotes healthy growth, enables the growing plant better to use the nitrogen supply and develop resistance to disease. Like the others, potash has been steadily drained out of our soils. It is fitting that all of us should make closer acquaintance with the foundations of our farm crops and, in turn, the foundation of our very bodies—namely, the soil itself and the elements which make it productive.

USDA Purchases Cheese

On Wisconsin Exchange

Purchases of cheese under the Food-for-Defense program are in the future to be made on the exchange at Plymouth, Wis., according to an announcement by the department of agriculture. The new method follows the invitation of the Wisconsin Cheese exchange to use its facilities. The present method of buying cheese through the acceptance of bids from manufacturers and others will be continued in addition to purchasing on the exchange.

Department officials said that by buying cheese on the exchange to supplement the present bid method, purchase operations should be more directly reflected in cheese market prices with increased benefits to milk producers. Exchange officials have indicated that trading rules would be modified to permit buying in accordance with the department's usual specifications.

Between March 15, when buying operations under the Food-for-Defense program began, and July 16 the department bought over 46,700,000 pounds of cheese. Most of the purchases have been of large styles of cheese (cheddars and twins) which are preferred for export. Recent prices paid at midwestern points have been between 22 and 23 cents per pound, including differentials of age of cheese and kind of pack. Some daisies, or small styles of cheese, have been bought previously, with the usual trade price differential of one-half cent per pound over large styles, in order to make it possible for the industry to utilize all of its cheese-making facilities.

Manufacturers are now urged by the department of agriculture to shift from the manufacture of daisies to large styles of cheese in order to meet export requirements more adequately. Cheese buying operations of the department will continue to be concentrated on the large styles.

Cheese and other foodstuffs bought in the department's program can be used for domestic distribution to public aid families and for school lunches, to meet requirements for the Red Cross for shipment to war refugee areas, for transfer to other countries under the terms of the Lend-Lease act.

Farm Notes

A school of nutrition, said to be the first of its kind, has been established at Cornell university. Five colleges will co-operate in offering instruction.

The unusually favorable position of the nation's poultry industry is reflected in the June output of more than 4,000,000,000 eggs, largest for the month since 1930.

Fun for the Whole Family

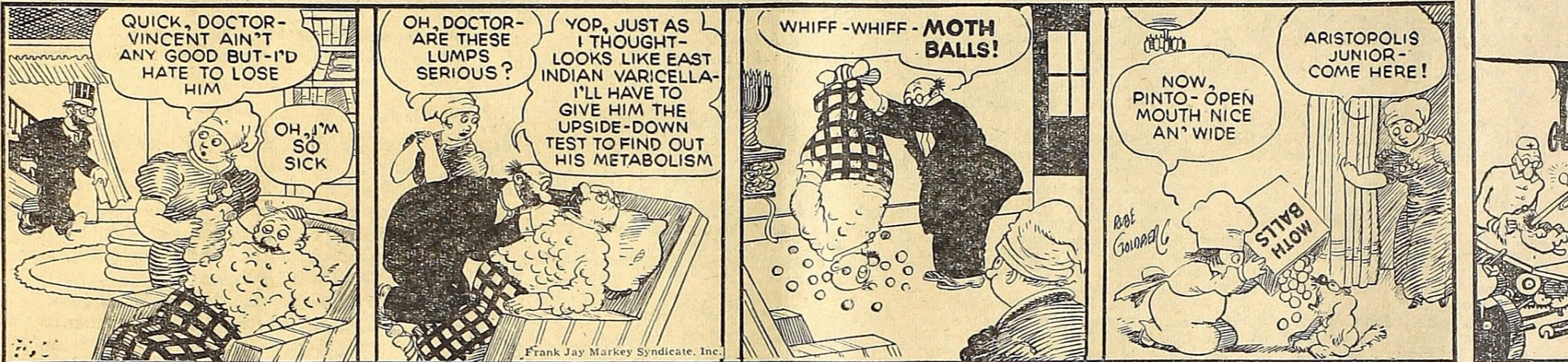
BIG TOP

By ED WHEELAN



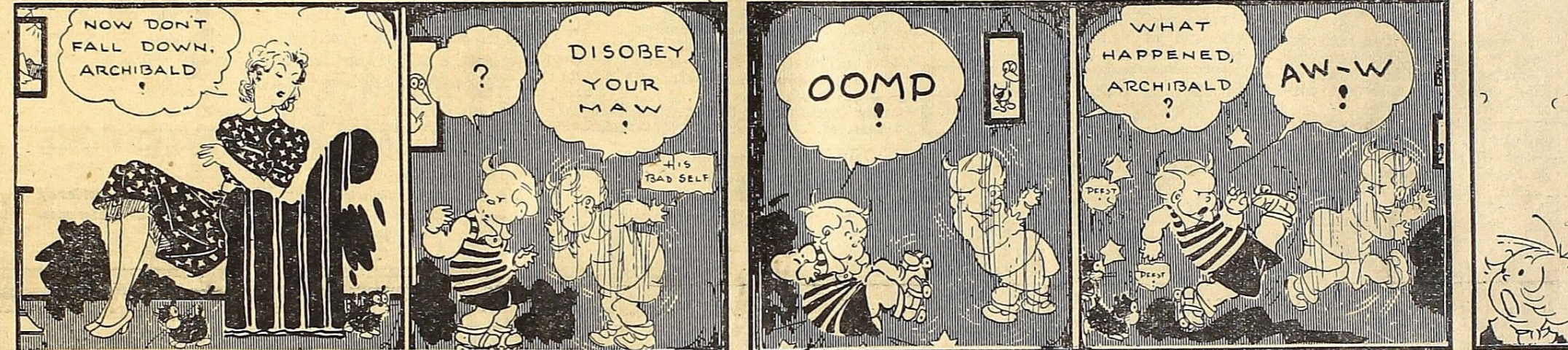
LALA PALOOZA Eight-Balled by Moth Balls

By RUBE GOLDBERG



S'MATTER POP—Nice Training, Nice Training

By C. M. PAYNE



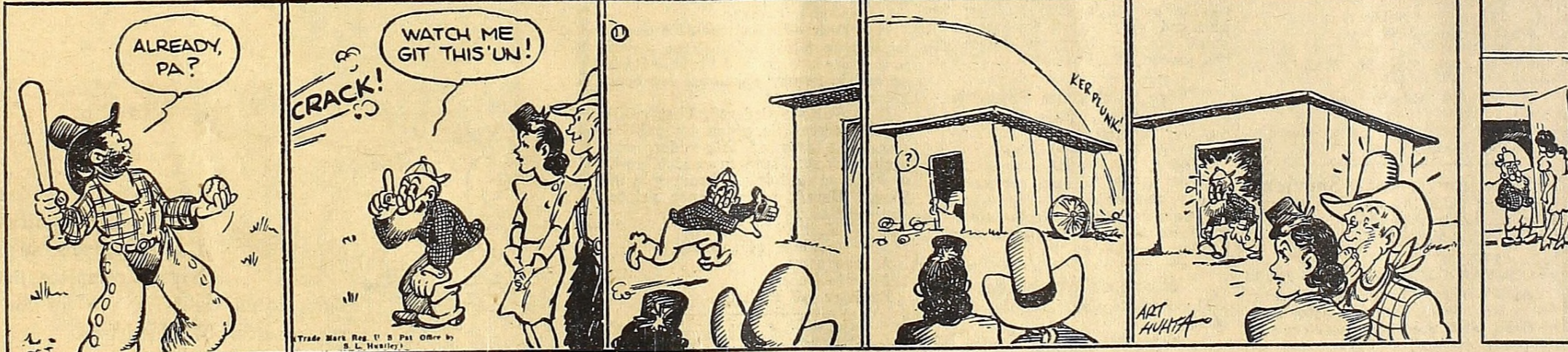
POP—Pop's Frank About It

By J. MILLAR WATT



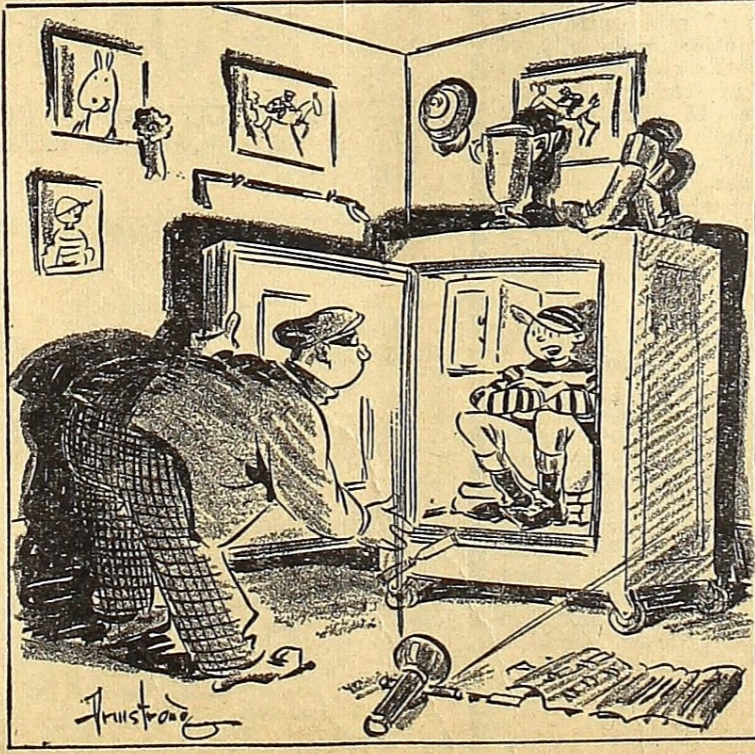
MESCAL IKE By S. L. HUNTLEY

Otherwise a Good Catch



THE SPORTING THING

By LANG ARMSTRONG



The World At Its Worst

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



Household Hints

To skin tomatoes easily, place them in a basin, pour boiling water over them and let them stand a minute. You will find that the skin can be removed without any trouble.

For a quick salad, cut tomatoes in thin slices, spread each with a mixture of salad dressing, sardines, chopped pickles and olives and serve on shredded lettuce.

When creaming shortening and butter for a cake, save time by mashing them together with a potato masher. This will not harm your mixture and is certainly a timesaver.

When fitting pastry into a pie never stretch it. Lay it in place and allow at least half an inch on the edges when trimming. Pastry shrinks when baked.

A quick method of making french dressing is to put all ingredients into a small jar, screw cover tightly and shake until dressing is thoroughly mixed.

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

WANTED

TOOL MACHINERY, LATHES, MILLING MACHINES, SHAPERS. Write Dept. H, 1400 W. Fort, Detroit, Mich.

The best way to find out what to send soldiers in camp is to ask the soldiers themselves. Surveys among the men with the colors show cigarettes and smoking tobacco head the list. Actual sales records from service stores in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard show the largest-selling cigarette is Camel. Prince Albert Smoking Tobacco is well-known as the "National Joy Smoke." A carton of Camels or a pound tin of Prince Albert is always welcome, doubly welcome around the end of the month. Local tobacco dealers are featuring these brands as ideal gifts for men in the service.—Adv.

HE FOUND A BETTER WAY

HENRY MILL FOUND A BETTER WAY FOR SPEEDY WRITING. HE INVENTED THE FIRST TYPEWRITER IN 1714.

THE BETTER WAY TO TREAT CONSTIPATION DUE TO LACK OF PROPER "BULK" IN THE DIET IS TO CORRECT THE CAUSE OF THE TROUBLE WITH A DELICIOUS CEREAL, KELLOGG'S ALL-BRAN... EAT IT EVERY DAY AND DRINK PLENTY OF WATER.

Departing Guests To the guests that must go, bid God's speed and brush away all traces of their steps.

Nervous Restless Girls!

Cranky? Restless? Can't sleep? Tired easily? Because of distress of monthly functional disturbances? Then try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Pinkham's Compound is famous for relieving pain of irregular periods and cranky nervousness due to such disturbances. One of the most effective medicines you can buy today for this purpose—made especially for women. WORTH TRYING!

WNU-O 38-41

Envoys of Soul Words are the soul's ambassadors.—Howell.

Miserable with backache?

WHEN kidneys function badly and you suffer a nagging backache, with dizziness, burning, scanty or too frequent urination and getting up at night, when you feel tired, nervous, all upset... use Doan's Pills. Doan's are especially for poorly working kidneys. Millions of boxes are used every year. They are recommended the country over. Ask your neighbor!

DOAN'S PILLS

